

COLORADO RIVER RECOVERY PROGRAM
FY 2002 ANNUAL PROJECT REPORT

RECOVERY PROGRAM
PROJECT NUMBER: 4

I. Project Title: Colorado Program Management

II. Principal Investigator(s):

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III. Project Summary:

CDOW and CWCB provide program management support through administration of aquatic wildlife and water resource management and technical studies concerning Colorado as identified in the RIPRAP. This and the broader involvement in the implementation of the Recovery Program action plan occurs through participation and preparation of specific task materials for Implementation, Management, Biology, and Water Acquisition Committees. Significant activities include the development of interagency agreements, scopes of work, and reports, as well as integration of program research results and other new information for effective planning, guidance, status reviews, and issue resolution within the Program.

Program management tasks performed by CDOW and CWCB met all expectations for the most part. Colorado participation in key Recovery Program projects and issues was adequately coordinated with Program participants as necessary.

IV. Study Schedule:

Initial Year: 1988; Final Year: 2013

V. Relationship to RIPRAP:

General Recovery Program Support Action Plan

VII. Provide Program planning and support (Program Management).

A. Determine actions required for recovery.

3. Update, refine, and prioritize recovery actions (RIPRAP) annually.

5. Monitor and assess Recovery Program accomplishments annually.

6. Develop annual work plan to address priority needs.

B. Actively participate in Recovery Program committees and secure funding for annual work plan and larger projects.

C. Manage, direct, and coordinate Recovery Program activities.

1. Review Information and Education Program (Management Committee).

VI. Accomplishment of FY 2001 Tasks and Deliverables, Discussion of Initial Findings and Shortcomings:

- A. Prepare for and attend all Management, Biology, and Water Acquisition Committee meetings and conference calls, and Implementation Committee meetings as necessary;
(Participated in 10 Biology, and all Management and Implementation Committee meetings, no formal WAC meeting were held in 2002)
- B. Review and revise the Recovery Action Plan annually;
(Done-4/16-17/2002)
- C. Review proposed new scopes of work, revise ongoing scopes of work and recommend revisions to the Annual Work Plan;
(Done 09/2001 through 12/2002)
- D. Review draft final Program technical reports, strategic plans, and studies, and incorporate recommendations into Program guidance and implementation;
(Done – see Program final reports list for reports reviewed and acted upon in 2002, plus Gunnison flow recommendations and minority report documents, Yampa Basin management Plan, Colorado endangered fishes stocking plan, recovery goal development, flooded bottomland restoration program guidance workshop, environmental compliance documents for fish passage and screens in the Grand Valley, nonnative fish control workshop, monitoring stocked endangered fish workshop, nonnative gamefish interactions in Colorado River final report, NNFC I&E strategy for Yampa and Colorado rivers, and razorback floodplain model.)
- E. Coordinate documentation for transfer of funds to CDOW for RIP-sanctioned work and to FWF for capital budget (i.e. Section 6, BuRec contract, and state-matching);
(Done, assisted in obtaining required approvals and the preparation of the Interagency Agreements transferring dollars from the Species Conservation Trust Fund to NFWF)
- F. Coordinate RIP-sanctioned field activities to conform with State scientific collection permit requirements;
(Done)
- G. Attend annual Colorado River Research Review meeting;
(01/16-17/2002)

- H. Coordinate among CDOW, CWCB and Department of Natural Resources staff to identify issues, define positions, and solicit input on Recovery Program actions;
(Done – Recovery Goals, Yampa River PBO and basin management plan/agreement, Gunnison Flow Recommendations, Grand Valley fish passage and screening issues, Highline Lake appraisal issues, Steamboat Lake water lease, endangered fishes hatchery production potential @ Mumma NASF, grass carp regulations, nonnative fish control in the Yampa River Basin)
- I. Cooperate with and/or develop Memoranda of Understanding or Agreement as appropriate for provision of water for benefit of the endangered fish;
(Done – short-term Green Mountain contract, negotiations for long-term Ruedi contract, short-term emergency modification to Aspinall agreement for Redlands fish ladder, Coordinated Reservoir operations, Orchard Mesa Check settlement, Green Mountain HUP operations, and Coordinated Facilities Study)
- J. Coordinate as necessary with Attorney General’s Office, Colorado DNR Divisions, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, water user groups, environmental groups and other interested parties;
(Done – including Yampa River Basin Partnership, CRWCD, Colorado Fish Health Board, Colorado Department of Transportation, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation)
- K. Prepare scopes of work as required on various subjects, annual reports and all associated revisions;
(Done – 4, 70, 71, 71a, CAP18/19, 106, CAP-31, 118, 29-D, CAP-20, CAP-14/PIP-12C)
- L. Respond to various requests and correspondence from Recovery Program participants and other private entities regarding the endangered fish and instream flow appropriations in Colorado;
(Ongoing – Follow-up on CWCB’s withdrawal of 1995 15-Mile Reach ISF filings through participation on the Colorado River PBO, the Yampa River PBO, numerous meetings with State of Colorado and other Recovery Program members, efforts by CDOW to develop new strategies for determination of ISF requirements for endangered fish, participation in annual Coordinated Reservoir Operations, HUP Managing Entities efforts, as well as participation and administration of the Coordinated Facilities Operations Study, Nonnative fish control issues in the Yampa Basin).
- M. Prepare and present endangered fish issues at Wildlife Commission and Water Conservation Board meetings and meetings of other groups as necessary;
(Done- nonnative fish stocking regulation evaluation at the Fish Health Board; Elkhead Reservoir enlargement, pike removal at the Yampa River Basin partnership, obtain funding recommendations to CDNR from the CWCB and Wildlife Commission for program participation and assist CDNR in moving those funding requests through the State Legislature.)

- N. Coordinate with other Recovery Program participants regarding various water issues, and review potential water rights for sale or lease; pursue acquisition of water and water rights where beneficial; and
(Done – participation in annual Coordinated Reservoir Operations, HUP Managing Entities efforts, and participation and administration of the Coordinated Facilities Operations Study. Also encouraged discussions between UCRIP, SJRIP and GCAMP)
- O. Assist as appropriate in the development and implementation of Programmatic Biological Opinions.
(Done – Yampa, Gunnison)
- P. Perform water accounting as required by RIPRAP and PBOs.
(Done – Yampa, Gunnison preliminary work. Detailed water accounting for Colorado Mainstem including 15-Mile Reach will be performed in FY2003).
- Q. Clerical work associated with all of the above.
(Done)

VII. Recommendations: *No recommendations for change at this time.*

VIII. Project Status: *Ongoing and on track.*

IX. FY 2001 Bud get Status

A.	Funds Provided:	CDOW: \$65,000	CWCB: \$45,000
B.	Funds Expended:	CDOW: \$65,000	CWCB: \$45,000
C.	Difference:	CDOW: \$0	CWCB: \$0
D.	Percent of the FY 2001 work completed:	100%	
E.	Recovery Program funds spent for publication charges:	\$0	

IX. Status of Data Submission: *Not applicable*

XI. Signed: Thomas P. Nesler

04/09/2003

Principal Investigator

Date